

19 June 1974

Mr. Francis J. Van Damm  
Director of Logistics  
Room 1206  
Ames Building

Dear Frank:

I am very sorry indeed that a poleaxing by some sneaky virus left me flat on my back at home at the time of your retirement party and, hence, rendered me unable to attend. Though I regret the occasion, since it is hard to think of you as joining the ranks of the retired, I also very much regret not having been there to raise a glass to toast to an old and valued friend.

During the course of your career you rendered great service to the Agency and the government, in several incarnations. Given your quiet effectiveness and admirable penchant for getting things done in an efficient but unobtrusive manner, there are doubtless many who fail to appreciate just how much you have contributed and accomplished in the furtherance of our common objectives. Having myself been privileged to work closely with you at various times and to be in a position on other occasions where I could see directly how much you were doing, I probably have a better idea than many of just how much you have done. In Vietnam, in Headquarters and elsewhere you have contributed a great deal on your own and also have done many things that have made it easier for others to discharge their responsibilities.

I am indeed sorry that you will soon be retiring though the logic and mathematics of your decision are hard to fault. I hope your retirement activities prove pleasant and profitable in every way and certainly hope that our personal friendship will continue even

though your professional activities will be taking new directions. You will be sorely missed here, but all of us wish you nothing but the best in any endeavors you may now decide to undertake.

With warmest regards.

As always,

George A. Carver, Jr.

O/D/DCI/NIO:GACarver,Jr/mee  
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Orig - Addressee  
1 - D/NIO Chrono ✓  
1 - NIO/RI